

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.  
11502/33

In Re Application Of: Blatter

Application No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Customer No.	Group Art Unit	Confirmation No.
10/706,245	November 12, 2003	Julian W. Woo	32642	3731	

Title: STAPLE AND ANVIL ANASTOMOSIS SYSTEM

Address to:  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
**37 CFR 1.97(b)**

1.  The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

**37 CFR 1.97(c)**

2.  The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), provided that the Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of:

- the statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e);

**OR**

- the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).

P10A/R5V05

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Title: STAPLE AND ANVIL ANASTOMOSIS SYSTEM

**Payment of Fee**

(Only complete if Applicant elects to pay the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p))

- A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is attached.
- The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 50-2375 as described below.
- Charge the amount of \_\_\_\_\_
  - Credit any overpayment.
  - Charge any additional fee required.
- Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

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Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

\*This certificate may only be used if paying by deposit account.

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CC:

**Certificate of Mailing by First Class Mail**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on

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Dated: MARCH 27, 2006

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— VIA FACSIMILE —

**PATENT APPLICATION  
Docket No. 11502/33**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:	)	)
		)
Blatter	)	)
Serial No.:	10/706,245	) Art Unit 3731
Filed:	November 12, 2003	)
Title:	STAPLE AND ANVIL ANASTOMOSIS SYSTEM	)
Examiner:	Julian W. Woo	)
Customer No.:	32642	)

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R § 1.97**

**TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:**

1. Pursuant to the duty of disclosure, documents listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449 (or equivalent) are presented for the Examiner's consideration.

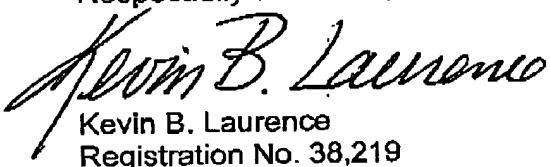
- Copies of listed documents are enclosed. (37 CFR § 1.98(a))
- Copies of listed U.S. patent documents are omitted because this application was filed after June 30, 2003 and is, thus, subject to image file wrapper processing. Copies of listed foreign patent documents and non-patent literature are enclosed.
- Copies of listed foreign patent documents and/or non-patent literature are enclosed. (37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2))
- Copies of the documents listed on sheet(s) \_\_\_\_\_ of Form PTO-1449 (or equivalent) are omitted because (1) they are already of record in U.S. Patent Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, on which this application relies for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120; and (2) any information disclosure statement filed in the prosecution of Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, complies with 37 CFR §§ 1.98(a) through (c). (37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d))

2.  The Examiner's attention is directed to the enclosed copy of copending U.S. Patent Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, for \_\_\_\_\_, which is cited in this application.
3. This information disclosure statement is being submitted (check box a., b., or c.):
- a.  Within three months of the filing date of a national application or entry of the national stage in an international application; or before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114. (No statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e) is required.); or
- b.  After the period set forth in paragraph 3a, but before the mailing date of either a final action, a notice of allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application. (Check box i. or ii.)
- i.  A \$180.00 Information disclosure statement submission fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed, or
- ii.  A statement specified by 37 CFR 1.97(e) is set forth below; or
- c.  After the mailing date of a final action or notice of allowance and on or before payment of the issue fee. A statement specified by 37 CFR 1.97(e) is set forth below. Enclosed is a \$180.00 information disclosure statement processing fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).
4. If a statement specified by 37 CFR 1.97(e) is required, the attorney or agent signing below hereby states that:
- each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement; or
- no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

5.  A concise explanation of the relevance of each document not in the English language and/or selected documents in the English language is included.

DATED this 27<sup>TH</sup> day of MARCH, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,



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**CUSTOMER NO. 32642**

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

FORM PTO-1449 (REV. 7-80)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 11502/33	APPLICATION NO. 10/706,245		
				APPLICANT - Blatter			
TITLE: STAPLE AND ANVIL ANASTOMOSIS SYSTEM  CUSTOMER NO.: 32642				FILING DATE- November 12, 2003	GROUP- Not Assigned		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	1	5,993,468	11/30/1999	Rygaard	606	151	09/17/1998
	2	5,330,486	07/19,1994	Wilk	606	139	11/25/1992
	3	4,319,576	03/16/1982	Rothfuss	128	305	02/26/1980
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformation with MPEP609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							